

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/056 W

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R 120927Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 08

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3343

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS JA

SUBJECT: ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS

1. PRIMIN KIM CHONG -PIL REPORTEDLY ENDED HIS VSIT TO TOKYO MAY 8 AND 9 BY GETTING AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FROM JAPANESE PRIMIN TAKEO MIKI TO HOLD ROK-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. PRESS, IN LEAD STORIES MAY 10, INTERPRETED THIS AS MEANING SOMETIME IN JUNE, WHEN DIET SESSION ENDS. AGREEMENT WAS REPORTEDLY REACHED AFTER KIM "PROMISED" THAT ROKG WOULD MAKE EFFORTS TO HANDLE KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE IN AN APPROPRIATE WAY. PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT KIM IN WIDE-RANGING MEETINGS WITH GOJ LEADERS HAD EXPLAINED SECURITY SITUATION ON KOREAN PENINSULA AND OBTAINED JAPANESE UNDERSTANDING OF SITUATION.

2. PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARY, HAN SANG-KUK, WHO ACCOMPANIED PM TO TOKYO TOLD POLCOUNS MAY 12 THAT JAPANESE HAD BEEN CLEARLY CONCERNED ABOUT ASIAN SECURITY SITUATION AND SOUNDED MORE FORTHRIGHT THAN THEY HAD RECENTLY ABOUT NEED FOR IMPROVED ROK-JAPAN TIES. HAN SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED TO HOLD MINISTERIAL CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO MIKI'S TRIP TO US; CONFIDENTIAL

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MOSTLY LIKELY TIME FOR MEETING, HAN SAID, WAS JULY.

3. REGARDING KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE, MIYAZAWA HAD PROPOSED TO PRIMIN THAT ROK PROVIDE JAPANESE WITH WRITTEN

STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT KIM TONG-UN, ROK EMBASSY STAFF MEMBER INVOLVED IN KIDNAPPING, HAD BEEN FIRED FROM MOFA FOR ALLOWING HIMSELF TO GET INTO POSITION IN WHICH HE WAS SUSPECTED OF MISCONDUCT IN CASE. PRIMIN SAID KOREAN SIDE WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSAL.

4. HAN SAID JAPANESE HAD ASSURED PRIMIN THAT THEY WOULD TAKE NO FURTHER STEPS IN POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA BUT THEY WOULD PROCEED WITH ECONOMIC RELATIONS. PRIMIN URGED, AND JAPANESE AGREED, THAT NOTHING WOULD BE SUPPLIED TO NORTH KOREA WHICH WOULD HAVE MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE. IN THIS REGARD, PRIMIN CHASTISED THE JAPANESE FOR HAVING SOLD BORING EQUIPMENT TO NORTH KOREANS WHICH, PRIMIN CLAIMED, WAS USED IN DRILLING DMZ TUNNELS.

5. ACCORDING TO MOFA NORTHEAST ASIA DIVISION CHIEF U MUN-KI, JAPANESE UNDERSTANDING OF SECURITY SITUATION IN KOREA WAS SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE OF KIM'S TALKS WITH GOJ. U SAID ROK WISHED GOJ TO SHOW DECISIVENESS IN RESOLVING QUESTIONS OF NORTHEAST ASIAN RELATIONSHIPS AFFECTING ROK SECURITY AND THAT HOLDING OF MINISTERIAL MEETING WAS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION. HE SAID THAT ROKG WOULD NOT RULE OUT FURTHER JAPANESE DEMANDS OVER KIM TAE-CHUNG, CASE AT LEAST NOT UNTIL DATE FOR MEETING IS FIXED, BUT THAT IT IS NOW UNLIKELY THAT GOJ WOULD BE FORCED BY JAPANESE PRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION TO RENEW DEMAND THAT KIM CASE BE "SETTLED" BEFORE MEETING CAN TAKE PLACE.  
SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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